



# WEEKEND UPDATE

## A MAJOR INCIDENT REPORT FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE CHIEF P. MICHAEL FREEMAN

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February 8, 2010

This report covers major incidents occurring in Los Angeles County during the period beginning on Friday, February 5, 2010, at 5:00 p.m., until Monday, February 8, 2010, at 8:00 a.m.

### **FOOTHILL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM: MUD & DEBRIS FLOW**

On Saturday, February 6, 2010, at 5:36 a.m., the Foothill Incident Management Team was activated to monitor the La Canada Flintridge area and the impact of the predicted storms on at-risk areas from the Station Fire.

At 7:07 a.m., three engine strike teams (consisting of five Type I-engine companies each) were dispatched and staged at Descanso Gardens for any necessary emergency operations. Due to heavy rains and flash flood warnings for burn areas, 540 homes required mandatory evacuations in the communities of Acton, La Canada Flintridge, and La Crescenta. Several debris basins in the area were near full capacity. The L.A. County Sheriff's Department assisted with the evacuation notifications, and an evacuation center was established at La Canada High School.

One 64-year-old female was rescued from the second story of her home at 2008 Manistee in La Canada Flintridge, and two adult civilians were rescued from their vehicle; there were no injuries. Twelve homes sustained major damage, 31 homes sustained light to moderate damage, 43 homes were impacted by mud, and 25 vehicles were damaged.

This incident is being managed in unified command with L.A. County Fire, L.A. County Sheriff's Department, and L.A. County Department of Public Works. Cooperating agencies include U.S. Forest Service, Cal-Trans, California Highway Patrol, and the American Red Cross. Cole Schaeffer Ambulance and Southern California Gas also assisted.

Road closures in the area of La Canada Flintridge included Ocean View Blvd., South to Foothill Blvd., Escalante Drive, Castle Knoll Road, and Manistee Drive. Incident recovery information is being distributed in unified fashion through the Coordinated Agency Recovery Effort (C.A.R.E.) and field information officers from County Fire, Sheriff's, and Public Works. All evacuations, except for Paradise Valley north of Ocean View Blvd., were lifted at 9 p.m. on Saturday. Evacuations for Paradise Valley were later lifted at 11:30 p.m. that same evening.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT (323) 881-2401